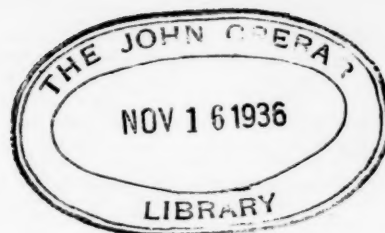


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CHILDREN'S BUREAU

KATHARINE F. LENROOT, CHIEF

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

FRANCES PERKINS

SECRETARY



THE CHILD — MONTHLY NEWS SUMMARY

Volume 1, Number 4

October 1936

CHILD LABOR

PROGRESS TOWARD ESTABLISHING BASIC CHILD-LABOR STANDARDS THROUGH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION

BY FRANCES PERKINS,
SECRETARY OF LABOR

All attempts to establish just labor standards, whether State, National, or international in character, have included a basic minimum age below which children are not to compete with adults for industrial or commercial employment. Such a standard is required, not only to protect the child's rights to health, education, and play, but also to help eliminate one of the factors responsible for the exploitation of labor at wages far below the minimum needed to maintain health, vigor, and wholesome family life. It is impossible to give adequate consideration to child labor without viewing it in relation to the field of general labor law and labor practices, just as it is impossible to develop labor codes and labor standards without providing safeguards surrounding the entrance of the young person into industry.

These are principles that have been recognized in State labor laws and administration and in the increasingly close integration of the activities of the Children's Bureau with those of other Bureaus in the United States Department of Labor. They are also evident in the work of the International Labor Organization which I have recently had an opportunity to observe in Geneva.

Trend Toward 16-Year Minimum Age in the United States

Public opinion in the United States has been crystallizing around the standard of a 16-year minimum age for children leaving school for full-time employment. Experience under the National Industrial Recovery Act with a 16-year minimum fixed in the codes indicated the practicability and desirability of such a standard, and

further proof has been given by the eight States that have adopted a 16-year minimum under State law.

Figures now indicate that with business recovery there is taking place a definite increase in the number of 14- and 15-year-old children employed. Nevertheless in many cases it has been possible, so far, to maintain the standards established under the National Industrial Recovery Act. The break-down of these standards by even a small proportion of employers may make it increasingly difficult to hold the line. I hope that at the coming sessions of the State legislatures it may be possible to underpin national sentiment with essential legal safeguards by finishing the job of ratifying the Federal child-labor amendment. Twenty-four States have ratified the amendment--18 since the beginning of 1933. Twelve more ratifications are needed.

Child-Labor Standards Adopted by the I.L.O.

Child-labor regulation is one of the major fields of work of the International Labor Organization of which the United States became a member in 1934. The first International Labor Conference was held in Washington in 1919. One of the actions of this conference was the adoption of a child-labor convention, setting 14 years as the minimum age for industrial employment. This was followed by conventions setting the same minimum for employment at sea (1920) and for employment in agriculture during the hours fixed for school attendance (1921). In 1932 a convention was adopted setting 14 years as the minimum age for commercial and miscellaneous employment. The industrial and maritime child-labor conventions have been ratified by about half the member States.

Progress in Establishing Just Labor Standards Through the I.L.O.

These agreements of the nations for the purpose of protecting children from too early labor are a part of the founda-

tion upon which international cooperation is being built in matters relating to workers of all ages and both sexes.

Through the International Labor Organization more than 60 nations have signified their willingness to consider the adoption of uniform labor standards dealing with a wide range of subjects. When, in June 1936, the twentieth session of the International Labor Conference, held under the auspices of the International Labor Organization, met in Geneva, 49 international conventions incorporating such standards had been adopted and had been ratified by varying numbers of member nations.

The June session adopted 3 additional conventions, bringing the total to 52. These 3 dealt with vacations with pay, the recruiting of colonial native labor, and the 40-hour week on public works. The 40-hour week for several important branches of private industry was discussed, but the votes fell short of the two-thirds majority necessary for adoption. Through the activities of the United States delegation, a technical committee was appointed to consider the 40-hour week for the textile industry and prepare a report for discussion at the 1937 session. The United States delegation also proposed resolutions relating to the right of workers to organize, technological unemployment, and silicosis, all of which will be discussed at later conferences.

Upward Revision of Child-Labor Conventions Recommended

The possibility of revising upward the minimum age established by international conventions is now definitely in the program of the I.L.O.

At the International Labor Conference held in June 1935 a committee on youth under the chairmanship of the United States Government delegate recommended the reopening of the child-labor conventions with a view to raising the age from 14 to 15 years.

A memorandum transmitted to the I.L.O. in June 1936 stated that the Government of the United States favors revision of the conventions fixing the basic minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, employment at sea, and non-industrial employment, so as to raise the minimum age from 14 to 15 years. In regard to the position of the United States on the subject of minimum age for employment, the memorandum stated:

This recommendation is in agreement with the position taken by the United States both in its advisory memoranda transmitted through the Secretary of State before this country became a member of the International Labor Organization in 1934 and in the [Labor] Department's Memorandum for the United States Delegation to the International Labor Conference in 1935. Especially since the onset of the recent economic depression, and also during the years preceding, there has been a strong movement in the United States to reduce the employment of children under 16, thus affording them greater opportunity for education, conserving available jobs for older workers, and removing the impetus toward low wages offered by the opportunity to use the cheap labor of young and inexperienced workers.

The present trend in the United States is toward a higher minimum age than 15, the age recommended for the conventions above referred to.

In 1918, at an International Conference on Standards for Child Welfare called by President Wilson, a minimum age of 16 was advocated for general employment, and in 1930 the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection again urged this standard. At the present time eight States, including some of the most important industrial States in the country, have adopted a 16-year minimum by State law. Four States have adopted a 15-year minimum.

The Governing Body of the I.L.O. in June 1936 decided to place on the agenda of the 1937 session of the Conference the question of revising the 1919 convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment and the 1932 convention concerning the age of admission of children to commercial and miscellaneous employment. The revision of the 1920 convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to employment at sea was placed on the agenda of the maritime session of the conference to be held in October 1936.



CHILD-LABOR LEGISLATION

Public Contracts Board appointed under Walsh-Healey Act

The establishment of a Public Contracts Board was announced on October 6 by the Secretary of Labor. This board will hold hearings and make findings upon questions arising under the Walsh-Healey law, which went into effect September 28. The law requires that manufacturers and dealers who make future contracts in excess of \$10,000 with the Government shall comply with certain minimum-wage, maximum-hour, child-labor, and other labor standards in the performance of the contract.

Pending the passage of a special appropriation act the board will consist of three officers of the Department of Labor: Frank Healy of the Office of the Solicitor, Hugh L. Kerwin, Director of Conciliation, and Telfair Knight, Counsel for the Textile Labor Relations Board. Mr. Healy, who is designated as chairman, was formerly head of the Government Contracts Division of the National Recovery Administration.

The board in making recommendations to the Secretary of Labor will draw for technical advice upon a panel of employer and employee consultants to be named by the Secretary.

The child-labor amendment in Texas

Following an intensive campaign during the summer by the Texas Central Committee for Ratifying the Child-Labor Amendment, the Resolutions Committee at the State Democratic Convention held in Fort Worth, September 9, included in its proposed platform a plank calling for ratification of the amendment. The convention on a roll call by counties voted 792 to 260 against a minority report recommending omission of this endorsement from the platform. Ratification of the amendment therefore became a part of the platform as adopted.

New Education Acts in England and Scotland

The Education (Scotland) Bill recently passed by the British Parliament raises the school-leaving age in Scotland from 14 to 15 years with exemptions for "beneficial" employment at 14, as does the British Education Act, 1936, in England. In both cases the effective date for the 15-year provision is September 1, 1939.

Under the Scottish Act, the medical officer must advise as to the suitability of the employment for which exemption is asked from the point of view of the child's health. Exemption for assistance at home is limited to the school term in which it is given, but it may be renewed.

The benefit of the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1935 is granted to pupils employed under an exemption certificate. By order of the Scottish Education Department, local authorities may pay traveling expenses incurred by employed young persons in order to enable them to attend approved continuation classes. *Times Educational Supplement*, London, August 8, 1936, p. 294; August 20, 1936, p. 318. *School Government Chronicle and Education Review*, London, August 1936, p. 26; September 1936, p. 45.

New York law enacted in 1935 now in effect

The law passed by the New York Legislature in the spring of 1935 raising from 14 to 16 years the age for employment in factories and for all work during school hours became effective September 1, 1936. Except in factory work, the law permits the employment of children of 14 years or over during vacations and outside school hours, and of children of 15 years who are judged incapable of profiting by further instruction. The provisions of the law do not apply to children over 14 who have completed a 4-year course in high school or who were legally employed when the law was enacted.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

President's Committee on Vocational Education On September 22, 1936, President Roosevelt named a committee of 18 to study the experience under the existing program of Federal aid for vocational education, the relation of such training to general education and to prevailing economic and social conditions, and the extent of the need for an expanded program.

The President indicated his desire for such a study in approving the Deen-George Act, authorizing an additional annual appropriation of \$12,000,000 for grants in aid for vocational education, beginning July 1, 1937.

The committee is headed by Dr. Floyd Reeves, professor of education at the University of Chicago. It is composed of authorities from the fields of labor, agriculture, home economics, industry, education and vocational rehabilitation, and includes representatives of the Department of Labor, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of the Interior, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

* * * *

Clearing house for vocational information A clearing house of information about occupations, for the benefit of guidance counselors, vocational educators, teachers, and others, has been established in New York by the National Occupational Conference. *School and Society*, vol. 44, no. 1, 126 (July 25, 1936), p. 118.

Apprenticeship training advocated in New York At a conference held by the New York State officials of the National Youth Administration on October 1, 1936, a resolution was adopted calling upon Governor Lehman to consider State planning for youth and offering the services of five members of the National

Youth Administration to assist. An organized effort to establish apprentice training in the State for all lines of skilled work, especially in the smaller communities, was recommended. *New York Times*, October 2, 1936.

Study of guidance in city schools Information on guidance problems has been collected by the Office of Education from 70 large cities over a period of 2 years. Some of the more serious problems confronting guidance programs in city school systems as shown by this study are summarized in *School Life* for September 1936 ("Guidance Problems in City Schools," by Maris M. Proffitt, pp. 19-20). Among these are the problem of sound educational and vocational counseling services for the subnormal and retarded pupil; and the lack of follow-up studies of pupils and of surveys of local employment conditions to provide information for counseling and for curriculum changes.

Radio programs available The National Youth Administration of Illinois has issued in mimeographed form a series of 15 radio broadcasts, directed by the assistant State director in charge of vocational guidance, junior placement, and apprenticeship training. The series includes five radio talks describing the various phases of the work of the NYA and ten dramalogs illustrating the integration of the NYA with existing social and educational institutions of a permanent nature.

Canada creates youth employment committee In accordance with the National Employment Commission Act of Canada, which received Royal Assent on April 8, 1936, a Youth Employment Committee has been established "to give special attention to the youth aspect of unemployment and relief." The Minister of Labor in his official statement says: "It will be asked to assist the National Employment

Commission in the formulation of measures to utilize unemployed youth on work and training projects and to improve existing facilities for vocational guidance and placement. The Commission will provide in Canada an organization with a purpose corresponding largely to that of the National Youth Administration of the

United States and similar agencies in many other countries." A committee of five members has been appointed, all of whom have been identified with youth organizations in various parts of the Dominion. *Labor Gazette, Ottawa, Canada, vol. 36, no. 9 (September 1936), p. 769. See also issues for March and July 1936.*

STANDARDS IN HOUSEHOLD EMPLOYMENT

WPA training courses Household training courses to equip young women on relief rolls to hold jobs in private employment are described by Ellen S. Woodward of the Women's and Professional Projects Division, Works Progress Administration, in the *Journal of Home Economics* for September 1936 ("Household Employment and the WPA," vol. 28, no. 7, pp. 439-442). Since their initiation several months ago in 18 States and the District of Columbia, through Federal funds allotted for the purpose, courses have been in operation in 137 centers. Four courses are given--for general household employees, cooks, nursemaids, and second maids.

Special effort is being made to obtain the cooperation of employers in setting up reasonable standards for work, living conditions, and pay. In a number of cities where WPA courses are being given, committees on standards have been formed, composed of employers, employees, and representatives of placement agencies.

Joint study in Connecticut The report of a study carried on jointly in three Connecticut cities by a member of the Y.W.C.A. and the Connecticut Department of Labor, has been issued in mimeographed form by the Department ("Household Employment in Hartford, Waterbury, and Litchfield, Conn.," Hartford, May 1936, 54 pp.) The purpose of the study was to obtain facts to be used as a basis for correcting existing abuses,

for establishing standards of working conditions, and to obtain information of value in organizing training courses. The report, which includes charts and tables, covers the qualifications and duties of employees, working conditions, hours, wages, living arrangements, and 1- and 2-day workers.

Work of Detroit guidance agencies An account of the work of the guidance and placement department of the Detroit public schools in cooperation with the Y.W.C.A. and other agencies to improve working conditions in household employment is given in an article by Doris A. Cline ("Household Employment in Detroit," *Occupations, The Vocational Guidance Magazine*, October 1936, p. 60). The agencies first set up a tentative scale of wages, which free employment offices quoted. A group representing employers, employees and employment agencies then developed a code of standards. Lastly, an investigation of the homes where girls had been placed was made by carefully chosen visitors.

Cambridge Home Information Center A course to train young girls for household employment carried on for the past 2 years in Cambridge, Mass., is described in *Parents' Magazine* for October 1936 ("Training Young Housekeepers," by Pamela Taylor, p. 16). "The aim of the course is to give to its students

professional dignity and approach to their work, develop in them an efficient as well as a correct technique, and acquaint them with at least the rudiments of modern, intelligent methods of handling children."

Only high-school graduates who pass physical and psychological examinations are accepted. The training is done in the homes of members of a committee organized by the Cambridge Home Information Center.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(Child Labor)

REEMPLOYMENT OF NEW ENGLAND WOMEN IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY, by Bertha M. Nienburg. Bulletin of the Women's Bureau, No. 140. U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, 1936. 118 pp.

This is a survey of existing and potential employment opportunities for women in manufacturing, clerical work, domestic and personal service, and teaching in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Among the 16- and 17-year-old girls covered by the survey about 9,500 were entirely without work, and another 1,850 had part-time jobs. While these constitute but a minor part of the unemployed girls and women, they are not far from two-thirds of the girls of these ages who desired work, in spite of the fact that more young girls than in earlier years remained in school.

FARM YOUTH IN THE UNITED STATES; a selected list of references to literature issues since October 1926. Compiled by Esther M. Colvin. Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 65. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, June 1936. 196 pp.

This bibliography supplements and brings to date material contained in

Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 17, which covered earlier publications on farm youth. The present list is for the most part limited to out-of-school farm youth ranging in age from 16 to 29.

THE BEET FIELDS REVISITED, by Charles E. Gibbons. *American Child*, National Child Labor Committee, vol. 18, no. 6 (September 1936), pp. 1 and 3.

In contrast to conditions in the summer of 1935 when the child-labor provisions of the AAA benefit contracts were in force in the sugar-beet fields, many children under 14 were working in the fields again in the summer of 1936, reports Mr. Gibbons. "In family after family children who were not permitted to work last year were again carrying their full load in beets--even the 7- and 8-year-olds. Hours are absolutely unregulated, and even the youngest frequently toil from sunup to sundown." A feeling of disappointment and insecurity was general among the beet workers, many of whom had no written contract for 1936 and did not know what they would receive for their season's work.



THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

EMERGENCY PROGRAMS FOR POLIOMYELITIS VICTIMS

Emergency plans for additional diagnostic and nursing services to children stricken with poliomyelitis were put into operation in Tennessee early in August and in Mississippi a few weeks later. Preparations for such services were under way in Alabama in September. This project brings the combined strength of Federal, State, and local resources into action during the course of an epidemic. It was made possible through the services for crippled children provided by State agencies in cooperation with Federal agencies under the Social Security Act.

In order to locate even the most isolated cases, diagnostic clinics, in addition to those previously planned, are being held by qualified orthopedic surgeons at points accessible to remote mountain and rural areas. Nurses are being sent upon the physician's request to all afflicted children in their own homes, to apply and to teach the latest recognized methods of treatment that will prevent or minimize crippling.

The 1936 epidemic affected principally the northern counties of Alabama, and the sections of Tennessee and Mississippi bordering on Alabama. The United States Public Health Service reported that from the beginning of the epidemic (June 7) to September 25, 1936 the total number of poliomyelitis cases in these three States was 720. Of these cases, 362 were in Alabama, 258 in Mississippi, and 100 in Tennessee. Most of the persons affected were children.

The special plans, approved for Tennessee and Mississippi for a 5-month period, include provision of --

- (1) Diagnostic services by orthopedic surgeons and diagnosticians through additional clinics.

- (2) Emergency physiotherapy and nursing services.
- (3) Hospitalization for special types of paralysis that cannot be handled successfully in the home.
- (4) Special appliances for the prevention of crippling.

In Mississippi, where no additional State funds were available to meet this special need, the American Red Cross contributed for the use of the State agency a sum which was matched by Federal funds under the Social Security Act.

The first clinic for follow-up of afflicted children under the special project in Mississippi was held in Iuka, Tishomingo County, in the first-aid rooms of the Tennessee Valley Authority, near the site of construction of the Pickwick Dam. Economically, the county is one of the neediest. It was chosen for the first clinic, because it was not only the first county affected but the one having the most cases reported. Every reported case was seen by the orthopedic surgeon employed by the official State agency on the recommendation of the technical advisory committee. Treatment recommended by the surgeon was in many cases initiated at the clinic.

Clinics of this type are being held in other sections of the State. The surgeon plans to return periodically for follow-up work. The children will be followed up by public-health nurses especially trained in orthopedics.

The preventive nasal spray recommended by the United States Public Health Service was used extensively in Mississippi under supervision of the State health department. Parents and school teachers were taught its proper use.

STATE PLANS IN ACTION

Nutrition in health programs An outline compiled from plans for 1936-37 submitted to the Children's Bureau by the State departments of health has been prepared (Notes on Nutrition in Maternal and Child-Health Programs Under the Social Security Act, 1936, 6 pp. Mimeographed.) This can be obtained free upon request from the Children's Bureau. It summarizes the use of staff nutrition service for preservice training and inservice training, in the educational program carried on by public-health nurses, dental hygienists, health-education workers, rural teachers, and emergency education workers; in consultation service to workers in the field; in enlisting support and cooperation of local agencies dealing with nutrition and child health; and in planning demonstrations and studies. Various suggestions are also given for making nutrition service available to States without a nutritionist on the staff of the department of health, as worked out in various State plans.

Public-health-training at Ann Arbor A 4-month training course for physicians, sanitary engineers, public-health nurses, and other specialists selected for employment in health departments was completed at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, on July 24, 1936. Sixty persons from several States were enrolled. This is the first to be completed of the training courses financed by the United States Public Health Service from social-security funds. A description of the courses, which included 4 weeks of practical field work with county health units in Michigan, is given in *Health Officer*, U. S. Public Health Service, vol. 1, no. 5 (September 1936).

The "Healthmobile" in Maryland During the summer of 1936 the Maryland State Department of Health under the State plan for maternal and child-health services sent out a "healthmobile" to hold health clinics for children in various parts of the State.

The staff, including a doctor, a dentist and the public-health nurse of the county visited, examined more than 2,800 children and made recommendations to mothers or public-health officials as to their care.

In addition to the examination of children and advice to their parents, the services of the healthmobile have considerable educational value. It carries a demonstration outfit, layette, and feeding outfit, distributes literature and is equipped to show health films.

Colorado program for crippled children "Colorado Goes Visiting to See Its 2,631 Crippled Children" is the title of a folder issued jointly by the Colorado Child Welfare Bureau and the Colorado Society for Crippled Children. A survey of crippled children disclosed 200 who had had no medical care or examination of any kind and 1,100 in need of immediate follow-up treatment.

Progress of State plans By October 15 the maternal and child-health plans for 1937 had been approved for 46 States, Alaska, the District of Columbia, and Hawaii. Plans for services for crippled children for 1937 had been approved for 38 States, Alaska, and the District of Columbia. The 1937 plans for child-welfare services had been approved for 36 States and the District of Columbia.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(Social-Security Program for Children)

ORGANIZING FOR CHILD WELFARE GRANTS-IN-AID, by Mary Irene Atkinson. *Social Service Review*, vol. 10, no. 3 (September 1936), pp. 464-482.

The story of what was accomplished in organizing the plan for extending child-welfare services as provided for by the Social Security Act, in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1936, is given in this article by the Director of the Child-Welfare Division of the United States Children's Bureau.

PUBLIC-HEALTH NURSING UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT; developments under the Children's Bureau, by Naomi Deutsch and Hortense Hilbert. *Public Health Nursing*, vol. 28, no. 9 (September 1936), pp. 582-585.

This article discusses provisions of the Act affecting public-health nursing, the scope of the new services, and existing deficiencies, ending with the statement that "prenatal care ranks highest in performance of all services given by public-health nurses and that such care is almost always included in community programs of public-health nursing. One of

the possible reasons ascribed for this relatively high performance is that there have been special Federal and State appropriations for promoting and extending maternal care, and that it has consequently been given special emphasis in public health nursing services. Public-health nurses and other health workers have been able to enlarge their knowledge and strengthen their practices through special educational direction and supervision made possible through these Federal and State appropriations."

It is followed by an article, "Developments Under the United States Public Health Service," by Pearl McIver.

WASHINGTON LOOKS AHEAD FOR CHILDREN, by Grace Phelps. *Parents' Magazine*, vol. 11, no. 10 (October 1936), pp. 22-23, 102-105.

Miss Phelps' account of what is being done for children under recent Federal legislation, notably the Social Security Act, is illustrated by many photographs.



MATERNAL, INFANT, AND CHILD HEALTH

CHILD HEALTH AND NUTRITION IN THE DROUGHT AREA

1. Public Health Nursing Services in Montana

The September issue of THE CHILD described conditions affecting child health and child welfare in the drought areas as seen on a visit by field representatives of the Children's Bureau. On August 7, shortly after their survey ended, 9 additional public-health nurses were assigned to duty in the drought area of Montana, under the Works Progress Administration.

During August these nurses made home visits to 32 expectant mothers, 52 infants, 93 preschool children, and 49 school children. They found needs for nursing and medical services, as well as for protective foods and clothing, greatly intensified by drought conditions. For example, in the drought area the county commissioners were unable this year to make the usual appropriations for corrective care, and, as a result, the nurses were besieged by parents asking for help in securing tonsil operations and vision corrections for their children. The special nurses were able during August, to arrange for five tonsil and adenoid operations, and to put five cases of tuberculosis under the care of physicians.

The State supervisor of public-health nursing, who with the field advisory nurse for the State maternal and child-health service, visited these areas a few weeks after the special nurses were assigned to duty, reported that only a beginning had been made in meeting existing needs. Any of the conditions found could of course be duplicated in nearly any State of the Union. In these areas, however, the drought that swells the need at the same time shrinks the resources, which thus become painfully inadequate to meet the situation.

The case of one family taken from the chief nurse's report illustrates the con-

ditions that the special nurses are finding in the drought area. The father of this family, 34 years of age, had had some college training, and the mother, 29, was a high-school graduate. The family had never been on relief. They had obtained a seed loan and had recently paid off all their old debts. There were several children, none more than 10 years of age, and the mother expected another child in the fall. The older children appeared well-nourished, but the younger ones showed signs of malnutrition and rickets. Through the public-health nurse another loan was arranged for this family, work on a road project was found for the man, a layette was provided, and the family was enabled to face the coming winter with less anxiety.

Practically all the families visited were reported to need cod-liver oil (especially for the younger children), tomatoes, and milk.¹ Some oranges and pears had been distributed.

Urgent need for layettes and for clothes for school children was also discovered. In one county a drive was started for clothing to be repaired and distributed. In another, where the county commissioners had allotted a supply of new blankets to the county hospital, the old blankets were distributed to needy families.

For the most part the people were ready to cooperate with the nurses from the first; mothers, especially, appreciated the nurses' home visits.

¹ On September 14 the director of the child-welfare division of the State board of health reported that the Montana State Relief Commission had voted to allot \$12,500 to purchase protective foods for the use of expectant mothers and children in the drought area.

2. Regional Conferences on Food Resources and Nutrition

Serious concern lest children in the drought area may suffer during the coming winter from the effects of an inadequate supply of home-grown fruits and vegetables was expressed at two regional conferences held in the drought area during the fall.

Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska were represented at the first of these conferences, which was held September 28 and 29 in Kansas City, Mo. Those present included specialists in nutrition and home economics, and medical and public health nursing consultants from the State health departments, the United States Public Health Service, the United States Children's Bureau, Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and State agricultural colleges, the Rural Rehabilitation Division of the Resettlement Administration and the United States Office of Education, Home Economics Education Service.

The second conference, similar in nature to the first, was held in Minneapolis on October 1 and 2 with representatives present from Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Although in some States fall rains were maturing tomatoes and a few late vegetables, resettlement workers reported 13 counties in Minnesota where there was almost no home-produced food supply this year, and similar reports came from parts of all other States represented.

Concerted efforts were mapped out at the conferences to obtain the most effective possible use of available supplies of protective foods. Throughout the drought area, families must be taught the importance of keeping enough farm-produced milk, butter fat, and eggs for home use, even though these products bring a good price on the market.

South Dakota organized a nutrition council on the spot; North Dakota planned a series of 1-day conferences between nutrition specialists and public-health nurses. Both North and South Dakota reported plans for providing school lunches for rural children throughout the winter. Each State in the group planned to set up a council for the exchange of information on the progress of the programs adopted, and for the encouragement of county and local workers.

* * * * *

Iowa program for drought relief A group of recommendations for drought relief adopted by the Iowa State Planning Board on August 15 have been published in *Iowa Planning News* for September 1936 ("Long-Time Program Recommended for Drought Relief," vol. 1, no. 7, p. 3). These concern land use, water conservation and development, rehabilitation and resettlement, education, legislation, and transportation.

STUDIES IN THE NUTRITION OF CHINESE MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

Even in nonfamine years, the food of Chinese mothers and children in low-income families does not conform to Occidental standards of adequacy. Nevertheless, many Chinese mothers, both urban and rural, are able to produce healthy children and carry them successfully through the nursing

period by making the best use of a very limited food supply.

Lack of generally available sources of animal milk makes imperative the encouragement of breast feeding through education in good diet during pregnancy

and lactation, and training in the technique of nursing. In cities provision of wet-nursing services appears to be the best solution for infants that cannot be breast-fed. "Soymilk" is used to a limited extent and is available only in cities.

Suggestions are made for possible improvements in the diets of mothers and of children who have been weaned, within the limitations of the present food supply or potential agricultural resources.

Based on the following papers in the *Chinese Medical Journal*, vol. 50, no. 4 (April 1936): *An Approach to the Problems of Infant Nutrition in China*, by B. S. Platt, pp. 410-424; *The Improvement of the Diet of the Chinese Farm Family*, by L. A. Maynard, pp. 425-433; *The Diets of Nursing Mothers and Young Children in Peiping*, by R. A. Guy, pp. 434-442; *Experimental Nutrition Studies of Soy milk in Human Nutrition*, by H. W. Miller and Jean C. Wen, pp. 450-459.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

A. Crippling and Its Prevention

THE EARLY TREATMENT OF POLIOMYELITIS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY, by Arthur T. Legg, M.D. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, vol. 107, no. 9 (August 29, 1936), pp. 633-635.

Dr. Legg gave this paper as an address before the Section on Orthopedic Surgery at the annual meeting of the American Association in Kansas City, Mo., in May. In it he stresses the importance of immediate and thorough after care in cases of poliomyelitis and states on the basis of experience with clinic cases that positive benefit is derived from a long period of after care, and that even after 5 years definite gain in muscle power can still be made.

THE CRIPPLED CHILD IN THE MODERN WORLD, by Elizabeth G. Pritchard. *Health Officer*, U. S. Public Health Service, vol. 1, no. 5 (September 1936), pp. 135-145.

In this article there is a discussion of the prevention of crippling, especially of the newborn infant by providing good maternal care; also the education, vocational training, and guidance of the crippled child. The occupational-research program now being carried on by the United

NEWS NOTES

Dramatized health broadcasts The American Medical Association and the National Broadcasting Company will present the second series of dramatized health broadcasts under the title YOUR HEALTH, beginning October 13, 1936. These broadcasts will be given every Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock, Eastern Standard Time.

French health institutions for children The French Red Cross, which now has health institutions in every part of the country for anemic, rachitic, pre-tuberculous, or backward children, is planning to open a new mountain preventorium in the Auvergne, within easy reach of the spas for which that region is famous. *League of Red Cross Societies Monthly Bulletin*, Paris, vol. 17, no. 8 (August 1936), p. 124.

States Employment Service is also described. This aims to bring together all available information on job requirements in various fields, including those open to cripples.

B. Maternal and Infant Health

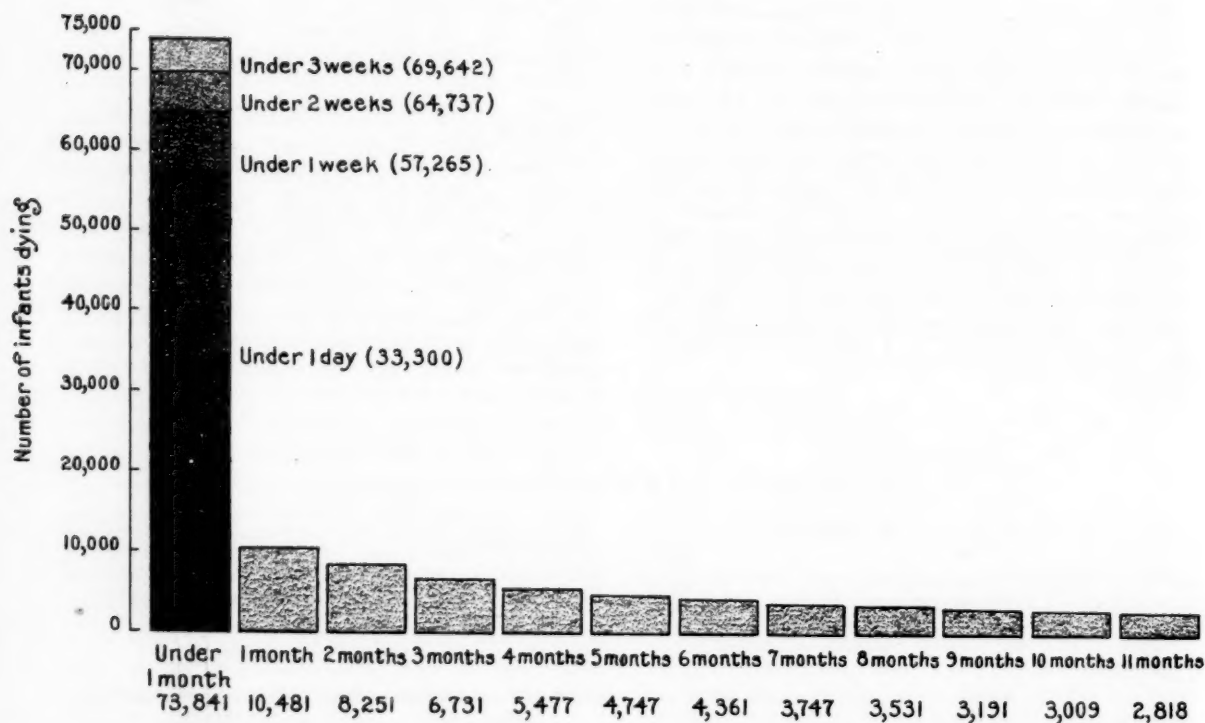
MORTALITY AMONG PREMATURELY BORN INFANTS, by Ethel C. Dunham, M.D. *Journal of Pediatrics*, vol. 9, no. 1 (July 1936), pp. 17-22. Reprints available from the Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C.

On the basis of various published reports and an unpublished study recently carried on in 4 large hospitals, which showed a mortality ranging between 25 and 34 percent for premature infants, the author advises further investigation into the causes of mortality among prematurely born infants with a view to reducing the high mortality from this cause.

SIX YEARS IN REVIEW: 1930-1935. Maternity Center Association, New York, 1936. No page numbers.

The work of the Maternity Center Association from 1930 to 1935, inclusive, is reviewed in this report. Five annual educational campaigns for better maternity care are described, also the exhibit of the Association at the Century of Progress. A financial report is given.

Infants Dying in Each Month of Life, United States, 1934 (Age at death)



Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Of all the infants born alive in the United States who die during their first year of life, more than half die during their first month of life.

In 1934, as the accompanying chart shows, the number of deaths of infants under 1 month of age was 73,841, compared with 56,344 deaths of infants 1 to 11 months of age, inclusive. More than three-

fourths (78 percent) of the deaths of infants under 1 month occurred during the first week of life. Furthermore, fewer deaths of infants occurred at each successive month of age.

Single copies of this chart are available free from the Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C., as long as the supply lasts.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1935; containing general abstracts of births, deaths, and marriages registered in Northern Ireland during the year. H. C. 378, H. M. Stationery Office, Belfast, Ireland, 1936. 72 pp.

The death rate in Northern Ireland from diseases of pregnancy and childbirth in 1935 was 5.50 per 1,000 births, a decrease of 0.77 from 1934. The death rate from puerperal sepsis, however, was 2.22 per 1,000 births, the highest recorded since 1925; deaths from this cause represented 40.4 percent of the total puerperal mortality.

INFANT WELFARE WORK IN LAGOS, SOUTHERN NIGERIA, by B. Skerritt, S.R.N. *Mother and Child*, National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare, London, vol. 7, no. 3 (June 1936), pp. 86; 91.

In Lagos Town, with an estimated population of 160,000, infant-welfare work began in 1925 when three African women were appointed as health visitors. A welfare department was organized and the first welfare clinics held in 1928. Native customs and methods of child care are described in the article, which is illustrated with reproductions of posters and with photographs.

C. General Public Health

WHAT EVERY TEACHER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF HER PUPILS, by James Frederick Rogers, M.D. U.S. Office of Education Pamphlet No. 68. Washington, 1936. 30 pp.

Specific directions for general and detailed physical examinations of school children to be made by the teacher are given in this handbook. The information which should be included on the record

card is shown; suggestions are given looking toward the correction of defects; and symptoms of communicable diseases are listed.

THE PHYSICIAN'S PLACE IN THE HEALTH PROGRAM, by W. W. Bauer, M. D. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, vol. 107, no. 7 (Aug. 15, 1936), pp. 485-487.

Qualifications of the medical profession for leadership in the public-health program include an idealistic approach, practical experience, and an understanding of the human factors involved.

POVERTY AND PUBLIC HEALTH, by G.C.M. McGonigle, M.D., and J. Kirby. Gollancz, London, 1936. 278 pp.

The Medical Officer of Health for Stockton-on-Tees and a coworker in the public-health field review the statistical evidence from published documents of the Ministry of National Service and summarize the findings of their own studies. They conclude that there is a high incidence of physical defects in the population of Great Britain, that malnutrition is a dominant factor in the low state of health, and that poverty is the principal cause of undernutrition.

A STUDY OF THE COMPARATIVE VALUE OF COD-LIVER OIL, VIOSTEROL, AND VITAMIN D MILKS IN THE PREVENTION OF RICKETS AND OF CERTAIN BASIC FACTORS INFLUENCING THEIR EFFICACY, by Martha M. Eliot, M.D., E.M. Nelson, Ph.D., Donald J. Barnes, M.D., Florence A. Browne, M.D., and Rachel M. Jenks, Sc.D. *Journal of Pediatrics*, vol. 9, no. 3 (September 1936), pp. 355-376. Reprints available from the Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C.

Four types of vitamin-D milk, cod-liver oil at four dosage levels, and viosterol at three dosage levels were studied in Detroit, Mich., over a 3-year period on a total group of 567 infants and the results reported in detail.



SOCIALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

NEWS NOTES

New program for juvenile agencies

The National Conference of Juvenile Agencies held in Chicago in

September formally severed its connection with the American Prison Association Congress and allied itself with the National Conference of Social Work, in recognition of the increasing predominance of the educational and social over the penal in correctional institutions for juveniles. In keeping with this step it also requested the Federal Government to give agricultural and vocational-education aid to schools of correction on the same basis as to public schools.

The National Conference of Juvenile Agencies elected I. O. Cook as president for the coming year. Mr. Cook is Superintendent of the Idaho Industrial Training School at St. Anthony, Idaho.

St. Paul selected for delinquency study

An experimental study in methods of community organization for

the early treatment of juvenile delinquency will be made by the United States Children's Bureau in St. Paul, Minn., over a 3-year period, in cooperation with local agencies.

This announcement followed a meeting of the Advisory Group of Consultants in the Juvenile Delinquency Demonstration held at the Children's Bureau in Washington on October 8.

In carrying out this demonstration, the Children's Bureau will be assisted by a cooperating committee made up of two representatives each from the juvenile court, the child-welfare board and the board of public welfare of Ramsey County; the University of Minnesota; the Wilder Charities; and the Community Fund.

Emphasis will be placed on the organization of community resources for

the treatment of the individual and the prevention of delinquency.

A previous demonstration study in the treatment and prevention of delinquency carried on by the Children's Bureau and various cooperating groups in Chicago during 1933, 1934, and 1935 has now been taken over on a permanent basis in somewhat modified form by the School of Social Service Administration of the University of Chicago.

Minnesota ruling on adoptions

The Supreme Court of Minnesota recently handed down a decision having an important bearing

on the status of adopted children. The case dealt with the right of a man to inherit as the lawful heir of foster parents who brought him up in their home from childhood, had him baptized with their family name, and in all ways treated him as their adopted son, but who never legally adopted him. The decision upheld his right to inherit on the ground that "conduct and admissions expressed a contract which created the relationship of parent and adopted child." The Child Welfare League of America *Bulletin* (September 1936) contains an article on the case by Charles E. Dow, who comments: "It is a decision that breaks with all precedents and lays down a principle that if followed in other jurisdictions will have wide implications."

Fewer children committed as public charges in New York

The annual report of the New York Department of Public Welfare for the year 1935 shows a decrease

both in the number of applications for commitment of children as public charges and in the number accepted. This decline is attributed by the Commissioner to the expansion of public unemployment relief, which has enabled destitute

families to keep their children in their own homes. In 1931 applications were made for commitment of more than 16,000 children in New York State, 6,000 of whom were accepted. In 1935 only 9,400 applications were made and 3,385 were accepted.

A definite trend toward the more extensive use of boarding homes is shown by

the report. The number of children cared for in boarding homes has doubled since 1929, while the number in child-caring institutions has remained almost stationary. Children already committed are being kept for longer periods of time both in private child-caring institutions and in boarding homes, than was formerly the practice.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(Socially Handicapped Children)

MUSIC IN INSTITUTIONS, by Willem Van de Wall, assisted by Clara Maria Liepmann. Russell Sage Foundation, New York, 1936. 457 pp.

The author, a member of the Bureau of Mental Health of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is himself a musician and a lecturer at the School of Music Education, Teachers College, Columbia University. Although the book is technical, it reveals the intensely human interest of its author in people as individuals.

The techniques discussed by Dr. Van de Wall for the use of music in welfare institutions have been developed from a deep appreciation of the psychological influence of music and the psychiatric and educational principles involved in using it as a therapeutic and socializing force. The subject is treated realistically with an understanding of the necessary limitations of institutional daily life.

Most of the chapters deal with the problems met in conducting a musical department that has been designed to serve the psychological treatment or education of institutional inmates. These chapters not only make practical suggestions for the organization and administration of music departments but discuss their relationship to other departments in institutions and to allied programs of physical education, dancing, and theatricals.

Application of the principles described is discussed for institutions for children of various ages, and for juvenile delinquents, as well as for institutions caring for the crippled, the blind, the physically ill, and the mentally deficient of all ages.

The bibliography undoubtedly will prove of great value, as it lists the titles of books in other fields with which work in music should be coordinated.

FOSTER-HOME CARE OF DELINQUENT CHILDREN, by Marshall E. St. Edward Jones. *Social Service Review*, vol. 10, no. 3 (September 1936), pp. 450-463.

The division of child guardianship of the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare is accepting more delinquent children than in the past for foster-home placement, according to this article. General policies are suggested as to (1) the type of agency for placement and (2) the type of delinquent selected for placement.

ALL CHILDREN SHOULD PASS, by Samuel Tenenbaum. *Survey Graphic*, vol. 25, no. 10 (October 1936), pp. 564-567.

The author comments in regard to the recent report by Dr. Stephen F. Bayne, associate superintendent in charge of elementary schools, New York City, that "its recommendations if carried out would bridge the hiatus between the practices of education and the new findings in psychology, mental hygiene, and sociology; free the child from the stigma of failure; and cut down crime, especially juvenile delinquency." The theory is that delinquency often follows truancy, which is the pupil's defense against the boredom and humiliation of retardation and failure.

CRIME; ITS CAUSE AND PREVENTION. Bulletin of the Russell Sage Foundation Library No. 138. Russell Sage Foundation, New York, August 1936. 4 pp.

A bibliography of material published since 1931, with brief annotations.

JUVENILE-COURT STATISTICS AND FEDERAL JUVENILE OFFENDERS, 1933. Publication No. 232, Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C., 1936. 114 pp.

The seventh annual report of juvenile-court statistics issued by the Children's Bureau is now available. It is based on information supplied by 284 juvenile courts and by the United States Department of Justice.

GENERAL CHILD WELFARE

NEWS NOTES

Mobilization for human needs

The proceedings of the Washington Conference, September 17-18, 1936, have been issued by the Administrative Agency, Community Chests and Councils, (155 East 44th St., New York City, 1936, 31 pp.). These include two addresses on "Tomorrow's Citizens": Youth in Europe and the United States, by Dorothy Thompson; and Outlook for American Youth, by Charles P. Taft.

Youth welfare programs

"Young Lives in a Modern World" is the title of a pamphlet outlining a public-welfare program for high-school parent-teacher associations, recently published by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers (Washington, D.C.). This pamphlet is a revised edition of the program formerly issued under the title, "A Public-Welfare Program." Community services to, and influences on, modern youth which the P.T.A. may improve are discussed, including motion

pictures, safety, library service, recreation, and juvenile protection. Outlines for a program on each topic are included.

Case-record library announced by C.W.L.A.

The Child Welfare League of America announced in its *Bulletin* for September 1936 that it is assembling a library of social case records representing interesting processes, types of service rendered, and methods of recording throughout the country. The records are unedited except for the substitution of fictitious names. The first three are now available. These deal with foster-home investigation, care of a cardiac child in own home and foster home, and institutional care and family rehabilitation. These are supplied to member agencies of the League upon request and to others at cost. Constructive criticisms and the submission of records suitable for inclusion are invited.

BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

SOCIAL WORK AS A PROFESSION, by Esther Lucile Brown, Russell Sage Foundation, New York, 1936. Second edition. 120 pp.

This brief review of the history of social work covers the growth and some of the problems of professional schools of social work.

The number of social workers, estimated to have been about 42,000 in 1930, is thought to have increased steadily since that date. Salary scales in social work are compared with those in teaching and other professions. The question is raised whether society considers social work necessary enough to pay for it. There is some discussion of the function of public and private agencies.

The author believes that social work is attaining professional status as defined by Dr. Abraham Flexner, but that

more should be done to teach methods of scientific research by which to evaluate social-work practices and to analyze social problems.

HOUSING AND CHILD WELFARE; a study of housing and its influence upon the child. Housing Division Research Bulletin No. 2, Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works. Washington, 1936. 42 pp. and appendixes.

Standards are given for household space, modern conveniences, recreation space, community facilities, street planning, and layout. These are based on the premise that "a unit in a multi-family dwelling is as wholesome for the child as a house on a narrow lot in a closely built district, provided it is in a neighborhood in which all structures and dwelling units are well planned and where sufficient open space is available."

CASH RELIEF, by Joanna C. Colcord. Russell Sage Foundation, New York, 1936. 263 pp.

This publication traces the methods of relief giving which were current during the early 1930's, and the steps by which, during 1934 and 1935, the use of cash relief became widespread among emergency relief administrations. The experience in nine cities is described in detail, and the findings summarized by topics with comments and recommendations. "The belief was generally expressed that, granted inadequate relief, the majority of families had been able to utilize it better as cash, and make it go farther in meeting

their needs, than under the previous system of order relief."

A HANDBOOK OF CHILD GUIDANCE, by Jennie I. Rowntree. Extension Series No. 4, April 1936. University of Washington, Seattle. 95 pp.

This handbook was prepared to aid teachers of child-care courses and leaders of adult study groups in organizing and presenting material to their classes, and to afford parents and others interested in children a deeper insight into the child's needs and reactions. The material consists entirely of questions grouped under topical headings.



OF CURRENT INTEREST

Educational radio project Material for local educational radio programs may be obtained from the Educational Radio Project, United States Office of Education, Washington, D.C. "Education in the News" is a program dramatizing significant developments in the world of American culture and education. Listeners may submit educational problems to the "Question Box;" answers are prepared by specialists of the Office of Education. There is also available a series of six interviews with celebrities of history under the title "Interviews with the Past."

List of Children's Bureau publications The Children's Bureau has had printed a new "Selected List of Publications" as of August 1, 1936 (Washington, 1936, 20 pp.). This pamphlet is sent free upon request. It lists Children's Bureau publications that are available and states whether they can be obtained from the Children's Bureau or purchased from the Superintendent of Documents.

Department of Labor leaflets Eleven folders in popular form describing various aspects of the work of the Department are available free from the United States Department of Labor. Their titles are as follows:

*CHILD LABOR.

*THE CRIPPLED CHILD.

HEALTH IN INDUSTRY; protect the worker's health and conserve human life.

HOUSING FOR WORKERS; the Government's role in housing.

LABOR DAY; its origin and significance.

MATCHING JOBS AND MEN; the work of the United States Employment Service.

THE PRICE OF INDUSTRIAL HOME WORK, and why it should be regulated.

*SECURITY FOR CHILDREN; maternal and child-welfare provisions of the Social Security Act.

*SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN.

TRAINING YOUNG AMERICANS FOR THE SKILLED TRADES THROUGH APPRENTICESHIP.

WORK SAFELY; help to prevent industrial accidents.

* Available free from the Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C.

PLEASE NOTICE

The Children's Bureau does not distribute the publications to which reference is made in THE CHILD except those issued by the Bureau itself. Please write to the publisher or agency mentioned for all others.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Nov. 9-15,	American Education Week. Sponsored by the National Education Association in cooperation with the United States Office of Education, and the American Legion. General theme: "Our American Schools at Work." Material for programs can be obtained from the National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, D.C.	Nov. 17-20,	Southern Medical Association, Baltimore, Md.
Nov. 11-14,	National Council of Parent Education. Fifth biennial conference, Chicago.	Dec. 2-5,	American Vocational Association. Thirtieth annual vocational convention, San Antonio, Tex.
Nov. 16-17,	National Municipal League. Annual conference on government, Toledo, O.	Dec. 3-5,	National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc. Annual conference, Columbus, O.
Nov. 16-18,	Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Houston, Tex.	Dec. 10-12,	National Conference on Educational Broadcasting. Auspices of United States Office of Education and Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.
Nov. 17,	Child Study Association of America, Annual meeting, 221 West 57th St., New York City, at 8.15 p.m.	Dec. --	American Public Welfare Association, Washington, D.C.
		Dec. 28-30,	American Statistical Association. Ninety-eighth annual meeting, Chicago, Ill.



CHILDREN'S BUREAU - - U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CHIEF

ASSISTANT CHIEF

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Correspondence Section
Routing of mail, distribution of publications, general correspondence; central stenographic, typing, and mailing service

Administrative Section
Business and personnel administration, estimates of appropriations, administrative accounting and auditing

Central Files
Filing of Bureau correspondence and records

State Audits Unit
Grants-in-aid—Review of State budgets, computation of payments to States, field audit of State expenditures

RESEARCH, STATISTICAL, ADVISORY, AND INFORMATIONAL SERVICE

Industrial Division
Director (Industrial economist)
Legal regulations and industrial conditions affecting employment of minors: Child-labor, school-attendance, workmen's compensation laws; employment conditions, occupational hazards, and vocational opportunities

Division of Research in Child Development
Director (Physician)
Health, growth, and development of children; maternal and infant mortality and morbidity; maternal and child care in relation to economic, social, and medical factors

Delinquency Division
Director (Social worker)
Methods of prevention and treatment of conduct problems, including organization of community services; juvenile courts and probation; institutions for delinquents

Social-Service Division
Director (Social worker)
Methods of care and legal provision for children in need of State and community organization for child care and protection

Statistical Division
Director (Statistician)
Special statistical studies; assistance in planning research studies; tabulation and analysis of data collected; statistical review of reports; collection, tabulation, and analysis of current statistics relating to children

Editorial Division
Director (Editor)
Editorial review of technical and popular material to be issued; presentation of information in popular form through writings and exhibits; monthly news summary; foreign-language research

ADMINISTRATION OF GRANTS-IN-AID

Maternal and Child Health Division
Director (Physician)
Advisory service to States in development and execution of plans; review of plans and budgets; cooperation with State agencies in demonstration projects; studies and investigations; preparation of reports and informational material

Crippled Children's Division
Director (Physician)
Advisory service to States in development and execution of plans; review of plans and budgets; cooperation with State agencies in demonstration projects; studies and investigations; preparation of reports and informational material

Child-Welfare Division
Director (Social worker)
Advisory service to States in development and execution of plans; review of plans and budgets; cooperation with State agencies in demonstration projects; studies and investigations; preparation of reports and informational material

Public Health Nursing Unit
Director (Public-health nurse)
Consultation and advisory service to States

5 Regional Services
Field staff for each service:
Consultants
Medical officer
Public-health nurse
Social worker
Auditor

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1938
Social worker
Auditor

101618-O U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1938